

IN THE CLAIMS:

✓ Please cancel claims 24-26 without prejudice.

REMARKS

Applicants have studied the Office Action dated July 23, 2002 and have made amendments to the claims. It is submitted that the application, as amended, is in condition for allowance. By virtue of this amendment, claims 1-23 and 27-29 are pending. Claims 24-26 have been canceled without prejudice. Reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims in view of the above amendments and the following remarks are respectfully requested.

As an initial matter, Applicants note that while a certified copy of the document from which the present application claims priority was submitted on December 18, 2001, the Examiner did not properly indicate that "All of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received." The certified copy of the document from which the present application claims priority has been submitted. Thus, it is requested that the Examiner clarify the situation by indicating in the next correspondence that all of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

In response to the restriction requirement under 35 U.S.C. § 121, Applicants elect for continued prosecution of the Group I claims (i.e., claims 1-23 and 27-29) drawn to a semiconductor device. To advance the prosecution of the application, all other previously-pending claims (i.e., claims 24-26) have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants expressly reserve the right to later file a divisional application directed to the non-elected claims.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application and the claims are in condition for allowance. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application, as amended, are requested.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (561) 989-9811 should the Examiner believe a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the application.

Date: August 22, 2002

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

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